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Index words: Breast, Ultrasound (US), Ultrasound (US) technology

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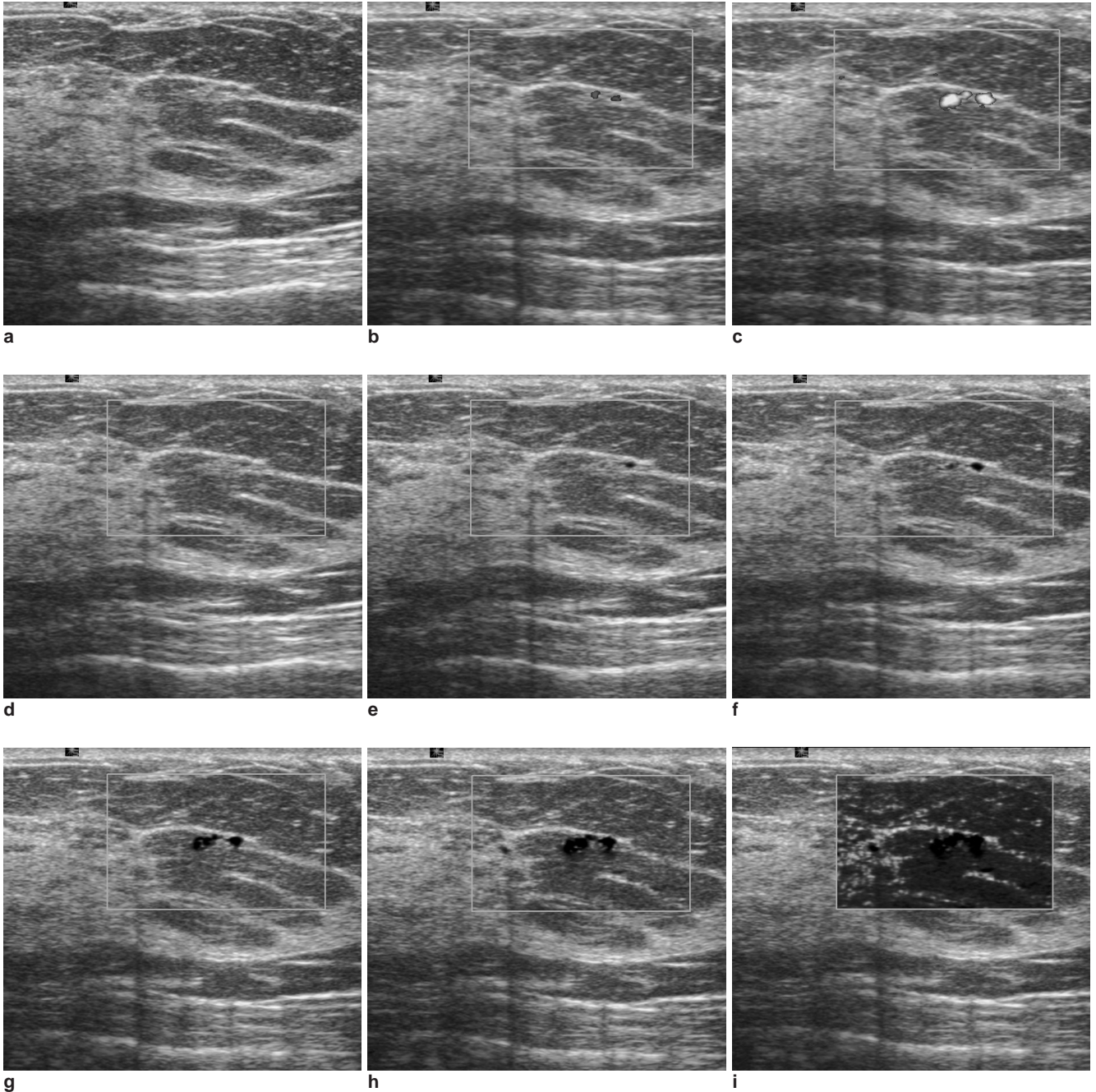


Fig. 1. Normal vasculature of the breast.
a. Conventional gray scale image shows normal breast tissue.
b. Color Doppler image shows the discrimination of artery and vein in the breast by color.
d. Power Doppler image shows several vessels.
d-i. Vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) images show the expression of vascularity at different imaging levels. Underlying tissue is depicted more clearly than with color and power Doppler images. Increased artifacts are seen at high imaging levels of vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™).

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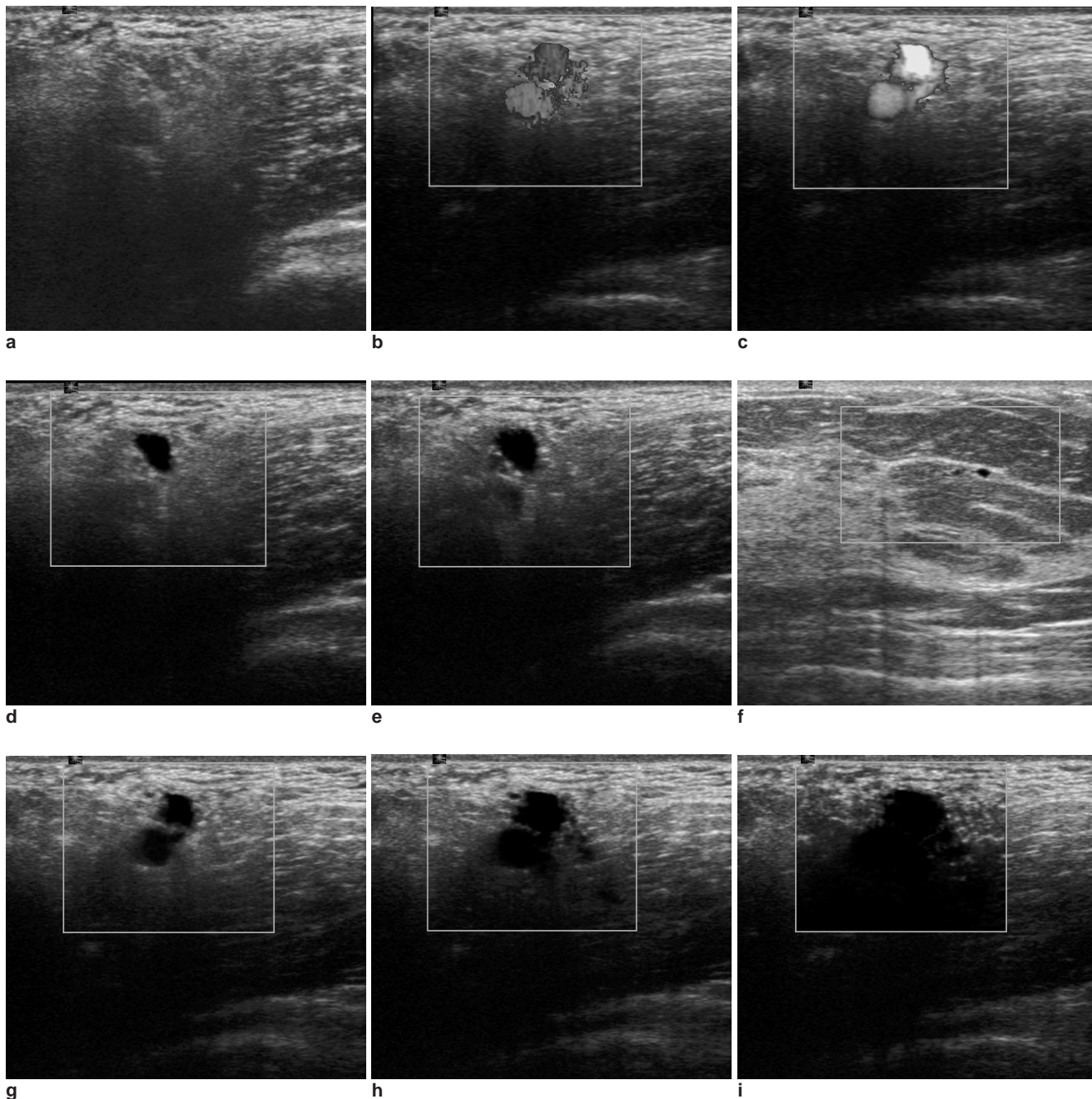


Fig. 2. Axillary vessels.

a. Conventional gray scale image shows normal axilla.

b. Color Doppler image shows the discrimination of axillary artery and vein by color.

c. Power Doppler image shows adjacent axillary vessels.

d-i. Vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) images show the expression of vascularity at different imaging levels. Underlying tissue is depicted more clearly than with color and power Doppler images. At the highest level of vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™), increased artifacts interfere with depiction of the underlying structure and vascularity.

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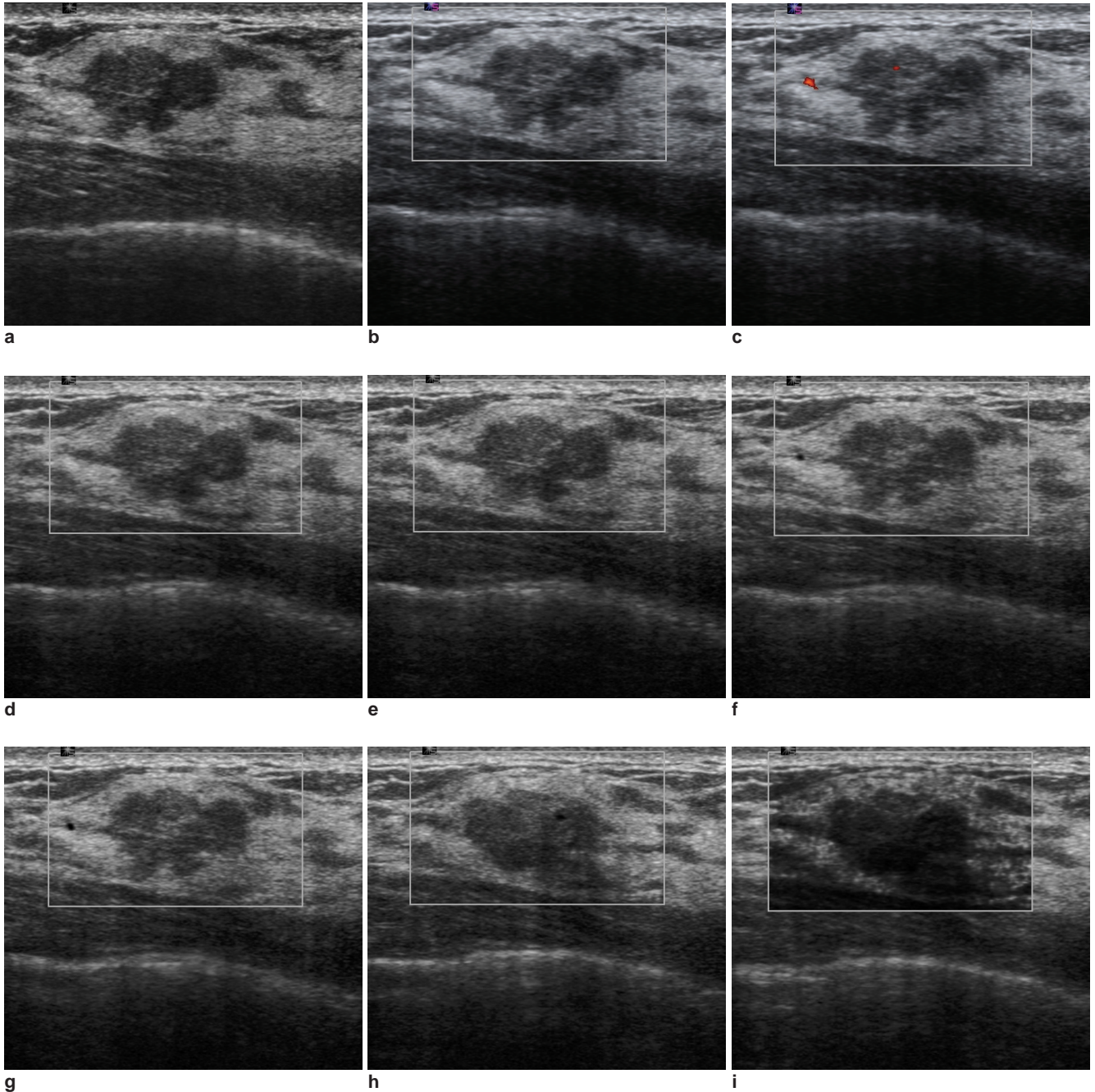
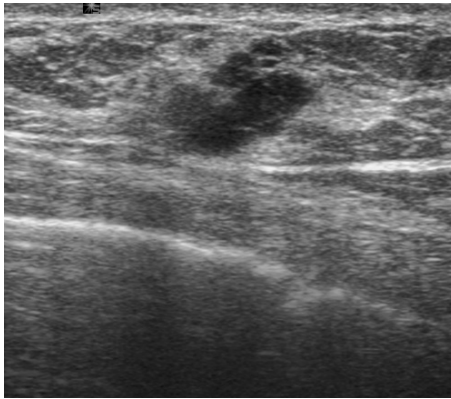
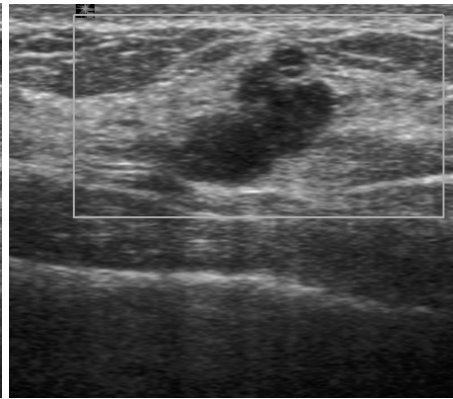
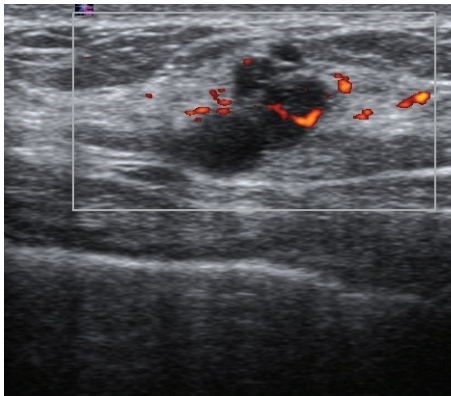
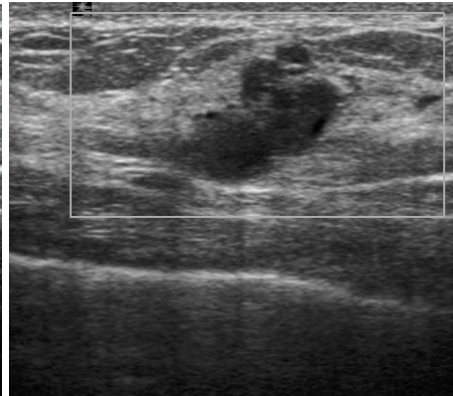
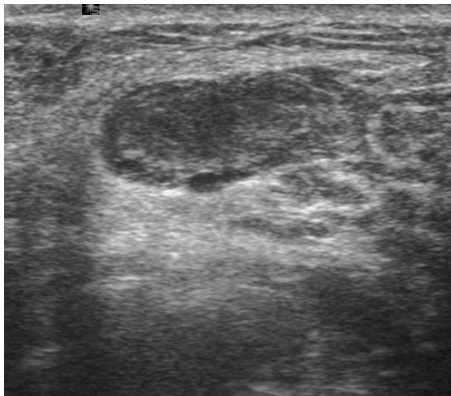
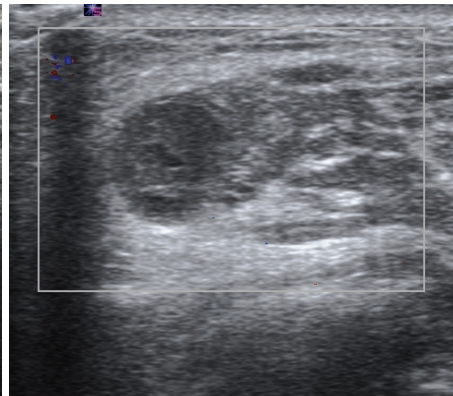
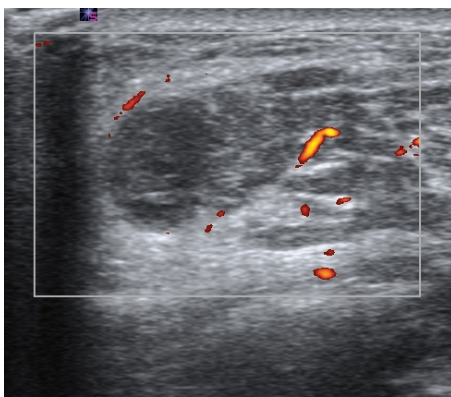
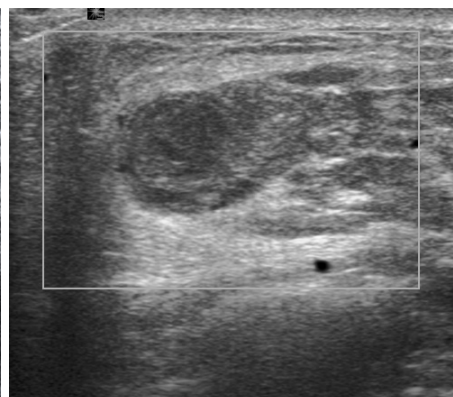


Fig. 3. Vasculature within a 1.3-cm sized fibroadenoma.
a. Conventional gray scale shows a 1.3-cm, oval hypoechoic mass.
b. Color Doppler image shows no discernable vessels.
c. Power Doppler image shows vascularity within the mass.
d-i. Vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) images show the expression of vascularity at different imaging levels. Underlying tissue is depicted more clearly than with color and power Doppler images. However, black flow signals within the mass were difficult to see compared with power Doppler images. Increased imaging level of vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) resulted in increased artifacts.

**a****b****c****d****Fig. 4.** Vasculature within a 1.3-cm sized atypical medullary carcinoma.**a.** Conventional gray scale shows a 1.3-cm, oval, complex cystic mass.**b.** Color Doppler image shows no discernable vessels.**c.** Power Doppler image shows vascularity within and adjacent to the mass.**d.** Vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) at level 4 shows vascularity within and adjacent to the mass. Underlying tissue is depicted more clearly than with color and power Doppler images. However, black flow signals within the mass were difficult to see compared with power Doppler images.**a****b****c****d****Fig. 5.** Vasculature within a 2-cm sized lactating adenoma.**a.** Conventional gray scale shows a 2-cm, oval hypoechoic mass.**b.** Color Doppler image shows no discernable vessels.**c.** Power Doppler image shows vascularity adjacent to the mass.**d.** Vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) image at level 4 shows vascularity adjacent to the mass. Underlying tissue is depicted more clearly than with color and power Doppler images.

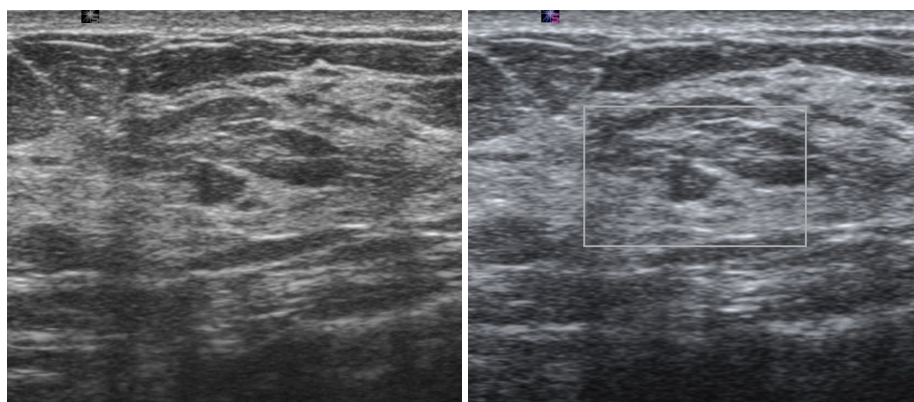


Fig. 6. Vasculature within a 0.4-cm sized fibroadenoma.

a. Conventional gray scale shows a 0.4-cm, oval, microlobulated, hypoechoic mass.

b. Color Doppler image shows no discernible vessel.

c. Power Doppler image shows vasculature adjacent to the nodule and flash artifacts due to motion.

d. Vascular enrichment technology (Clarify™) image at level 4 shows vasculature adjacent to the nodule and flash artifacts due to motion.

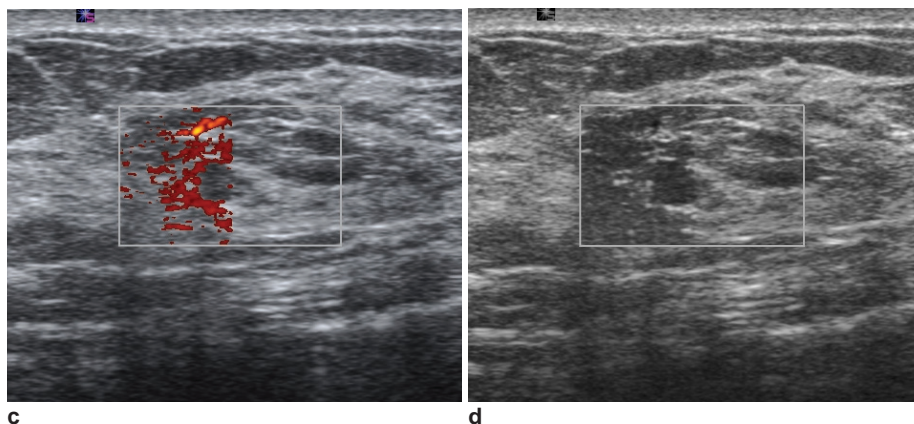


Fig. 7. Vasculature within a 1.5-cm sized ductal carcinoma in situ.

a. Conventional gray scale shows a heterogenous echoic mass.

b. Power Doppler image shows vasculature within and adjacent to the mass.

c. Vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) image at level 4 shows vasculature adjacent to the nodule and gives a clearer gray scale image than power Doppler image. However, black flow signals within the mass were difficult to see compared with power Doppler images.

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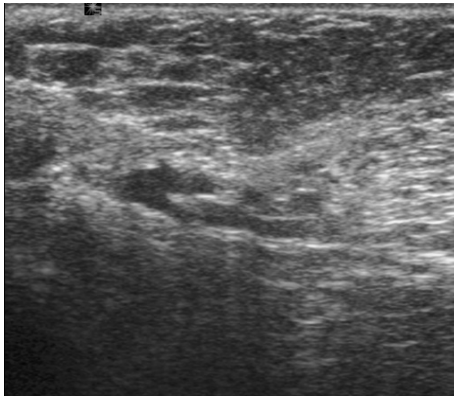
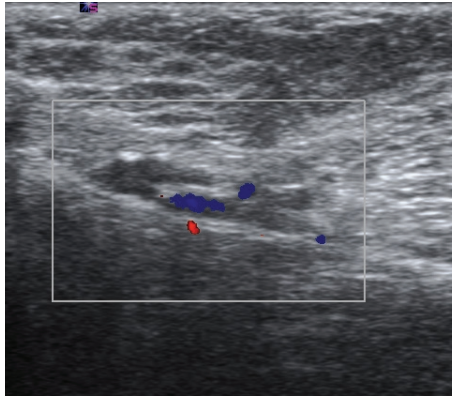
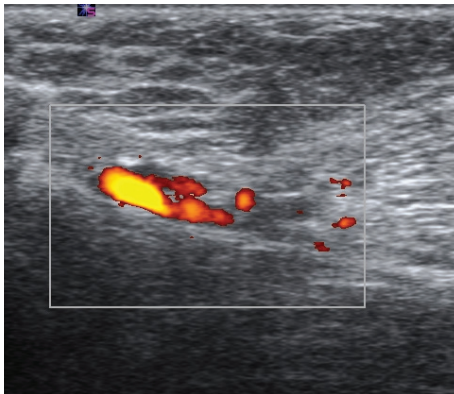
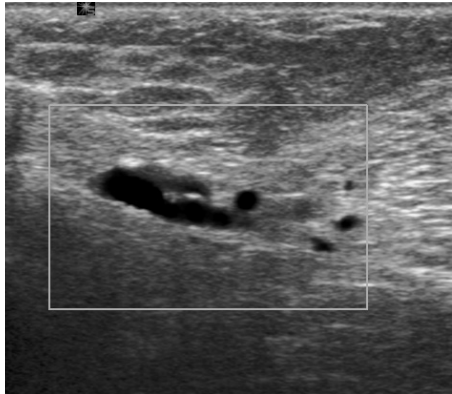
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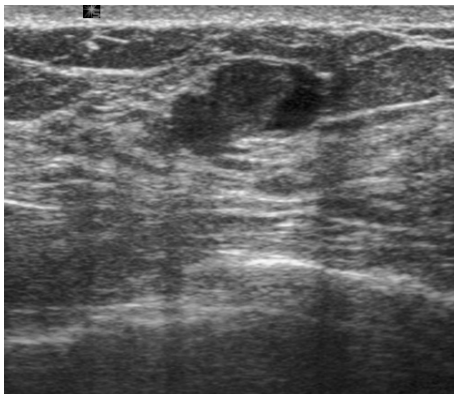
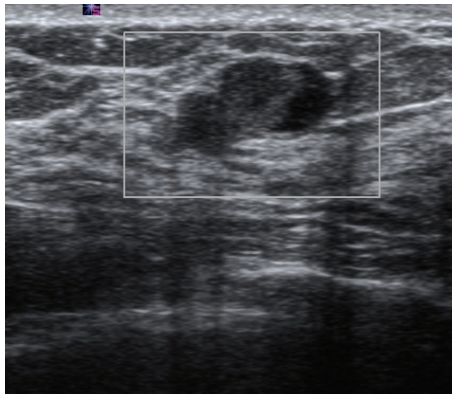
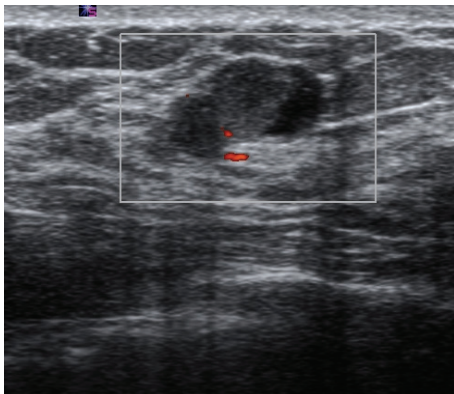
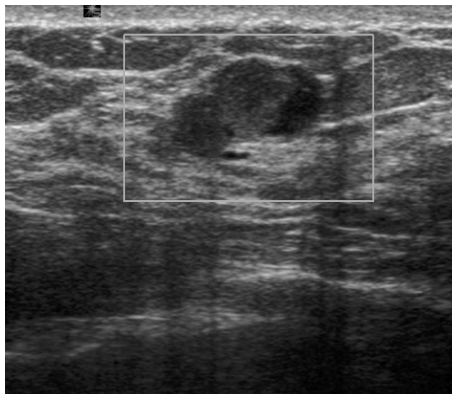
**a****b****c****d****Fig. 8.** Vasculature in mastectomy site.

a. Conventional gray scale shows branching vascular structure.

b. Color Doppler image shows discernable vascular structure.

c. Power Doppler image shows increased vascularity compared with color Doppler image.

d. Vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) image at level 4 shows vascularity with a clearer gray scale image than power Doppler image.

**a****b****c****d****Fig. 9.** Vasculature within a 1.3-cm sized intraductal papilloma.

a. Conventional gray scale image shows an oval complex cystic mass.

b. Color Doppler image shows no discernable vessels.

c. Power Doppler image shows vascularity within and adjacent to the solid portion of the mass.

d. Vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) image at level 4 shows similar vascularity to the power Doppler image with a clearer gray scale image. However, black flow signals within the mass were difficult to see compared with power Doppler images.

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Clinical Application of Vascular Enhancement Technology (Clarify™) and Comparison with B-mode, Color Doppler and Power Doppler Imaging in Evaluation of the Breast

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Purpose: To evaluate images of vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) and compare these with B-mode, color Doppler and power Doppler images of the breast.

Materials and Methods: Cases illustrative of a broad range of breast conditions were collected. The various breast conditions, including both normal vascular structures and abnormal lesions, were imaged by B-mode, color Doppler, power Doppler, and Clarify™, and the respective images were compared.

Results: The Clarify™ technique revealed clearer underlying gray scale images than color and power Doppler images. However, a small flow signal was harder to detect in the Clarify™ image due to the colorless images.

Conclusion: The vascular enhancement technology (Clarify™) is beneficial due to its increased ability to depict vascularity and clear gray scale image of normal and abnormal breast conditions.

Index words: Breast, Ultrasound (US), Ultrasound (US) technology

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